

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD  
CITY OF CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA  
February 13, 2017**

A meeting of the School Board of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, was held on Monday, February 13, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the School Administration Building. Mr. C. Jeff Bunn, Chairman, presided.

**The Call to Order**

Mr. Bunn called the meeting to order. He welcomed visitors to the meeting and informed them that a printed agenda for the meeting was available.

**Roll Call**

Dr. Jean Infantino called the roll and recorded attendance as follows:

Present:           Mr. Samuel L. Boone, Jr.  
                      Mrs. Colleen C. Leary  
                      Mr. Thomas L. Mercer, Sr.  
                      Mr. Harry A. Murphy  
                      Mrs. Christie New Craig  
                      Mr. Louis J. Tayon, Jr.  
                      Mr. Michael J. Woods  
                      Mrs. Victoria L. Proffitt, Vice Chairman  
                      Mr. C. Jeff Bunn, Chairman

Also present were Dr. James T. Roberts, Superintendent; Dr. Jacqueline C. Miller, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Dr. Anita B. James, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Victoria Lucente, Assistant Superintendent for Budget and Finance; Ms. J. Paige Stutz, Assistant Superintendent for Operations; Dr. Alan L. Vaughan, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and School Services; Dr. Jean A. Infantino, Executive Director of Administrative Services/Clerk of the Board; Mr. Robert J. Barry, Attorney; and Mrs. Brenda A. Turbeville, Deputy Clerk of the Board.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

Dr. Roberts had no amendments to the agenda, but said he would need a closed session for three pupil matters, one personnel, and two matters requiring consultation with legal counsel. Mrs. Proffitt moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion, which passed with all members voting in favor of the motion.

## **Closed Session**

Mr. Bunn asked Mr. Barry to prepare the language for the Board to go into closed session. Mr. Barry stated that the motion should read as follows:

“The Board should convene in closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, for consideration of three pupil matters, one personnel matter and two matters requiring consultation with legal counsel.”

Mr. Murphy moved that the Board go into closed session as provided in the Code of Virginia. The motion was seconded by Mrs. New Craig and approved, with all Board members voting yes.

## **Reconvene in Open Meeting**

The meeting reconvened in open session. Mrs. Proffitt moved the record show that the only items discussed in the closed meeting were those specifically cited in the motion to convene into closed session. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion, which passed with all Board members voting in favor of the motion.

## **Items Resulting from Closed Session**

The Superintendent recommended the expulsion of Student #1 and Student #3 under the conditions discussed. Mr. Murphy moved to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Leary and passed with all Board members voting in favor of the motion. The Superintendent recommended the expulsion of Student #2. Mrs. Leary moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and passed with all Board members voting in favor of the motion. The Superintendent recommended that Student #2 be expelled under the conditions discussed. The recommendation failed for lack of a motion.

## **Invocation**

Reverend Amanda Webber, Great Bridge United Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

## **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Ruth Haueisen, a fifth grader at Grassfield Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

## **Clerk's Items**

**Special Recognitions – CMSL Winter Chesapeake Champions:** Mr. Wayne B. Martin, Director of Student Services, recognized 60 Chesapeake Middle School League Winter Champions who had distinguished themselves through special achievements or accomplishments.

**School Board Appreciation Month:** The Governor has declared February as School Board Appreciation Month in Virginia. The Chesapeake Public Schools homepage, WFOS, and WCPS have announcements recognizing and thanking the Board members for their hard work. The Superintendent presented certificates of appreciation to members of the School Board, the Clerk, and the Deputy Clerk of the Board. The Clerk thanked the students at Western Branch Intermediate School for the ceramic owls they gifted to Board members.

**PTA Appreciation Recognitions:** The School Board presented certificates of appreciation to our Chesapeake Public Schools' PTA Council for their commitment to building strong family-school partnerships and to making every child's potential a reality. For more than 100 years, the National Parent Teacher Association (National PTA) has worked to better the lives of every child in education, health, and safety. The Clerk thanked PTA members at all schools for their many contributions to the students and the School Division.

A complete list of the students and staff who were recognized is available through the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

## **Hearing of Citizens**

None

## **Unfinished Business**

**Legislative Update:** Dr. Infantino said this session is predicted to end early and much has taken place since crossover of February 7. She said information pertaining to the budget would be presented as part of the budget presentation later in the meeting. Full day kindergarten bills have all died for this session. Charter school bills are predicted to pass their respective houses, however, as in past years are expected to be vetoed by the Governor. The student discipline bills are still alive, but with many amendments. The bills have been watered down from their original form, but the Division is still opposing them with the argument that these decisions need to be managed by the local school boards. Other details of bills were included in BoardDocs.

## **New Business**

None

## Consent Agenda

The chairman requested approval of the consent agenda. Items included the following:

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Mercer moved to approve the Consent Agenda and the motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed all Board members voting in favor of the motion.

## Superintendent's Report

**Announcements:** The Superintendent made the following announcements.

1. All schools and offices will be closed February 20, 2017, in honor of President's Day.
2. The Superintendent added his appreciation to the School Board members and clerks and said it was a privilege to work with such a supportive and concerned group of individuals.
3. A sampling of the activities taking place throughout the Division in celebration of Black History Month was included in BoardDocs. Board members were invited to attend these celebrations throughout February.
4. The Board was reminded that two calendar options for 2017-2018 were presented at the last School Board meeting. The options and supporting information have been posted on the Division's website to give employees and citizens an opportunity to review them. The survey regarding these options will close on March 3, 2017. The options will also be presented to the Superintendent's Planning Council for input on March 2.
5. The School Board's Planning Session is scheduled for March 23, 2017. At the School Board meeting scheduled for February 27, 2017, the Superintendent will ask for Board input as to the topics for discussion at that meeting.

**Presentation of the Superintendent's Proposed Operating, Categorical, and Special Funds Budgets, 2017-2018:** Dr. Roberts presented the Superintendent's Proposed Operating, Categorical, and Special Funds Budgets, 2017-2018. In this presentation, the Superintendent gave a recap of the Governor's proposed budget amendments released on December 16, 2017, as well as the House and Senate budgets. The Governor's Proposed 2017-2018 Budget includes an increase in the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) rate, an increase in the rate for the health care supplement, and a 1.5% bonus for SOQ positions. Lottery funding was increased as proposed in the budget adopted last March by the General Assembly. The total increase in funding is projected to be \$12.8 million including City revenues and other areas. This leaves the Division with a projected \$4.8 million shortfall. Dr. Roberts reviewed how the increased funding would be expended in the Superintendent's Proposed Operating, Categorical, and Special Funds Budgets, 2017-2018. Based on the Governor's proposal, the Division would have to spend 50% of lottery funding on one-time capital needs. Some Special

Education positions previously funded from Title VIB will be transferred to the operating budget. The cost of health insurance for the Title VIB positions will be moved to the operating budget. The VRS rate will cost the Division \$3.6 million in expenditures. Health insurance is estimated to increase 10% although that process has not yet been finalized. A 2.5% salary increase for all full-time employees is included in the operating budget. An increase of 247 students is projected increasing the need for teachers by 16. Dr. Roberts then reviewed various other increases and decreases that account for the remaining expenditures. The expenditure of lottery money on one-time capital needs will include bus replacements, white fleet replacements, and funding for security, technology, school-based infrastructure, and equipment needs. Dr. Roberts then reviewed the categorical and other funds budget needs for 2017-2018.

Dr. Roberts recommended the \$2.9 million in actual over budget funds be used for to implement Phase I of a full-day kindergarten program. This would transfer the current Title I kindergarten positions from the Title I budget to the operating budget. Dr. Roberts then reviewed the Division's plan for implementing full-day kindergarten. Dr. Angela L. Isbell, Program Administrator for Federal Programs, explained how the money previously used to fund kindergarten positions in Title I schools could be used if the funding for those positions are moved to the operating budget.

Dr. Roberts compared the Governor's budget, the House budget, and the Senate's budget. All three budgets include an increase in the VRS rate as well as an increase in the health care supplement rate. The Governor's budget includes a 1.5% bonus and the Senate budget includes a 2% raise on SOQ positions. There is no additional compensation included in the House budget. The Governor's budget and the Senate budget maintains the same lottery funding as passed by the General Assembly last March, while the House budget would restore to 40% the amount of lottery funding to schools and would remove the requirement to spend half of the 40% on non-recurring expenses. Dr. Roberts highlighted items in the areas of instruction, positions and human resources, and other part-time and equipment needs that were not included in the budget due to funding shortages. Mrs. New Craig asked staff for information regarding part-time hourly pay rates. The Superintendent identified four potential funding sources including increasing fees and charges, reducing Division expenditures, an increase in State revenues, and increased in City revenues. An increase in City revenues would require changes in the formula used by the City for funding. Mrs. Proffitt asked the Superintendent to furnish information to the Board regarding the City formula and how it is calculated.

Work sessions regarding the Superintendent's Proposed Operating, Categorical, and Special Funds Budgets, 2017-2018 are scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2017, and March 13, 2017. Mrs. Leary thanked the Superintendent for his work on the budget and thanked the City for their support, but encouraged everyone to contact their legislators regarding the lack of funding for public education.

## **Board Member Items**

Mrs. New Craig apologized for not being at the last Board meeting. She reiterated her support of some type of redistricting.

Mrs. Leary thanked the CPS Heartbeats Wellness Center for the water cups given to Board members in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month. She thanked Charlotte White, Art teacher at Western Branch Intermediate, for the owls made by her students. She thanked Mikiah Edwards, a student at Western Branch Intermediate for the owl she made. She thanked City leaders for their support of education throughout Chesapeake.

Mr. Mercer thanked Keirra Robinson for the owl she made him. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Mercer extended condolences to Mrs. Leary on the death of her father. He said he and Mr. Tayon visited schools Deep Creek Elementary School, Deep Creek Middle School, and Deep Creek High School. He thanked the Chesapeake Public Schools Educational Foundation for their support in the Teacher Store. Mr. Mercer talked about the classroom Deep Creek High School has set up for distance learning. He said several people had contacted him expressing concerns about Great Bridge High School and the effect low enrollment has on the availability of academic courses. Dr. Roberts said when enrollment is low for any class; several possibilities are utilized such as Virtual Virginia, distance learning, and live streaming.

Mrs. Proffitt added her condolences to Mrs. Leary and expressed condolences to Dr. Miller in the loss of her mother. She thanked Mayor Krasnoff for Mayor's Youth Day and said she looks forward to the event every year.

Mr. Bunn said TCC is offering a full two year scholarship at each Chesapeake high school and encouraged all those students who are interested to see their guidance counselor and apply. On behalf of the Board, he wished Christy New Craig a happy birthday.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

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Jean A. Infantino, Ed.D., Clerk

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C. Jeff Bunn, Chairman